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BT

UNCLAS PESHAWAR 1518

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDO/MR

REVIEWED by John Kelley DATE 9/29/89

() RELEASE () DECLASSIFY

() EXEMPT () DECLASSIFY in PART

() DEF () Non-responsive info.

FOI, EO or PA exemptions

To authority to:

() CLASSIFY as _____, OADR

() DOWNGRADE TS to () S or () C, OADR

E.O. 12356: N/A

TAGS: PREF, PREL, AF, PK

SUBJECT: NEW ARRIVALS FROM KUNDUZ PROVINCE

1. DURING VISIT OF STAFFDEL SCHNABEL TO MUNDA PUL REFUGEE CAMP AUGUST 13, AFGHANISTAN DESK OFFICER AND POLOFF HAD A CHANCE TO TALK WITH ELDERS OF RECENTLY ARRIVED REFUGEES. 68 FAMILIES FROM A VILLAGE IN CHAHAR DARRA JOLUSHALI IN KUNDUZ PROVINCE ARRIVED IN PAKISTAN ONE MONTH AGO AFTER A HARROWING TWO MONTH TREK TO THE BORDER. THESE NEW ARRIVALS WERE ALL PASHTO SPEAKERS AND FOLLOWERS OF PIR GAILANI (MAHAZI).

2. THEY LEFT THEIR VILLAGE BECAUSE OF INDISCRIMINATE BOMBING BY THE SOVIETS. THEY COULD NOT THINK OF ANY REASON WHY THEIR VILLAGE SHOULD BE TARGETED IN PARTICULAR. MANY DIED IN THE BOMBING. THE APRIL/MAY BOMBARDMENT OF THEIR VILLAGE MADE CULTIVATING COTTON, RICE, WHEAT, MELONS, ETC., IMPOSSIBLE. THEREFORE, MOST IN THE VILLAGE MADE THE GROUP DECISION TO DEPART FOR PAKISTAN.

3. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH THEIR VILLAGE WOULD APPEAR TO BE AS FAR

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AS 75 KM FROM THE SOVIET BORDER AND THIS SEEMS A BIT FAR FOR RETALIATORY BOMBING RAIDS. THEIR REPORT OF INDISCRIMINATE BOMBING FITS WITH OTHER REPORTS OF INDISCRIMINATE BOMBING IN RETALIATION FOR MUJAHEDIN CROSS-BORDER RAIDS INTO THE SOVIET UNION. END COMMENT.

4. ALONG THE WAY TO PAKISTAN THEIR CARAVAN WAS BOMBED TWICE. BOTH TIMES IN ZADRAN ON THE PAK-AFGHAN BORDER. SEVEN PERSONS WERE KILLED AND MANY WOUNDED. FORTUNATELY, MOST OF THE WOUNDED RECEIVED TREATMENT AT MIRAM SHAH AFTER CROSSING THE BORDER.

5. THESE NEW ARRIVALS HAD NOT YET BEEN FORMALLY REGISTERED, BUT THEY HAD RECEIVED CHITS FOR REGISTRATION AND SOME IMMEDIATE RELIEF ASSISTANCE. THE DAY WE VISITED THE CAMP SHELTER NOW WAS DISTRIBUTING MILK TO THE CHILDREN. ACCORDING TO PESHAWAR 1 DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR, UNHCR AND COMMISSIONERATE HAD AGREED ON ESTABLISHING A NEW CAMP, "MUNDA 6," FOR NEW ARRIVALS AND FOR REFUGEES SHIFTED FROM PESHAWAR CITY. SHELTER NOW WAS IN THE PROCESSING OF DRAWING UP BLUEPRINTS FOR A PLANNED CAMP. 400 TO 600 FAMILIES HAD ALREADY BEEN SHIFTED FROM PESHAWAR. (WE ALSO SPOKE WITH ONE SHIFTED REFUGEE, AN OFFICE EMPLOYEE OF THE AFGHAN SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF SHAMSUDDIN HUDA SHAMS.) ACCORDING TO THE DA, THERE WAS ROOM FOR ANOTHER 400 FAMILIES IN MUNDA 6. THE SHIFTED PESHAWAR CITY REFUGEES LIVED IN KACHA HOUSES AND WERE BEGINNING TO BUILD COMPOUND WALLS. WHILE THE NEWLY ARRIVED REFUGEES LIVED IN RAGGED TENTS WITH NO COMPOUND ENCLOSURES.

6. ASKED WHOM THEY WOULD LIKE TO SEE LEAD AFGHANISTAN IF THE RUSSIANS WITHDREW, THE INFORMAL SPOKESMAN FOR THE KUNDUZ PASHTUNS TACTFULLY REPLIED, "ANY AFGHAN MUSLIM ACCEPTABLE TO THE MAJORITY OF THE AFGHANS."

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